Assessment on the killings of BSF Personnel by Bangladesh Rifles

1849. PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any post assessment of the recent illegal occupation of the Indian territory and unprovoked firing by the Bangladesh Rifles resulting in casualties among the BSF and whether there is any involvement of Pakistan in the incident; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) Following the unwarranted and unprovoked intrusion by BDR forces into the Indian territory, Government had directed the BSF to remain in a position of high alert. The field formations are being strengthened and further equipped with better communications system. The Government of Bangladesh has informed the Government of India that a full investigation would be carried out keeping in view all aspects of the incident. The Government of Bangladesh has not yet communicated the progress of their investigation.

Fencing on Indo-Pak borders

1850. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether fencing of Indo-Pak borders have been completed;

(b) if not, how much is yet to be complete; and

(c) by when the remaining part is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) Construction of fencing in Punjab and Rajasthan sectors of the Indo-Pak border has been completed except for certain stretches where fencing was not possible due to terrain conditions *i.e.* riverine areas, shifting sand dune areas, permanently water logged areas etc.

Construction of fencing in Gujarat Sector and International Border in Jammu sector is in progress.

(b) and (c) 310 Kms. of fencing has been approved by the Government in the Gujarat Sector and the entire project is expected to be completed by March, 2004. Fencing along Jammu International border has been taken up recently and is expected to be completed by March, 2003.

Hindu Families migrated to India from Sindh, Pakistan

†1851. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Hindu families migrated to India during last ten years from Sindh district of Pakistan;

(b) whether these Hindu families have asked Government of India to grant Indian citizenship;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) Such details are not maintained by the Government of India.

(b) to (d) An application for grant of Indian citizenship is required to be made to the collector of the district where the applicant is ordinarily resident. All such applications forwarded by the respective State Government are considered by the Central Government in accordance with the provisions of the Citizenship Act, 1995.

---

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.